

USSN 09/769,405  
Art unit 3679  
Examiner J.R. Schiffman

Please cancel the paragraph starting on page 3, line 13, and ending at page 3, line 16 and replace with the following:

*Bz*  
-- The openings 32 may taper from the exterior surface 30 towards the interior surface 26 for example in a stepped pattern, in which the diameter of the openings 32 is significantly reduced adjacent the interior surface 26. This helps prevent coating material from extruding into the bore 28 of the tubular housing 12 if that is desired. --

#### REMARKS

##### Objection to the Specification

The non-compliance appears to relate to the change in the specification and this has been corrected. Page 3, line 2, "extending" is replaced by -- extend -- and the two references to "openings 34" on page 3, lines 13, 14 have been changed to -- openings 32 --. A marked up copy appears at the end of this response.

The changes to the claims include the complete text and a marked up copy. The drawing figure is changed only to make the lines more uniform, and correct the reference character height and legibility.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the application, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted, signed and certified as being faxed to the USPTO (3 numbered pages) on:

Oct. 1/02  
(Date)  
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